

NOTES ON PLEOCOMA CRINITA LINSLEY

(Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae)

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Through the kindness of Paul O. Ritcher the opportunity has been presented for studying a fine series of *Pleocomma crinita* Linsley from the Hood River Valley region of Oregon and a small series from a nearby area in Washington. This species was previously known from two male specimens from Glenwood, Klickitat County, Washington. This material exhibits considerable local variation and suggests that quantitative differences may exist between certain local populations. Some of the variations among males are as follows:

Odell, Hood River County, Oregon. One hundred and five males, collected in flight or excavated from the ground between October 12, 1953 and December 31, 1953, by P. O. Ritcher, Vernon Olney and D. McKeown. These range in length¹ from 20.25 mm. to 24.0 mm. with 80 per cent of the individuals falling between 21 mm. and 23 mm. In coloration they vary from almost uniformly castaneous or reddish-brown (two specimens) to almost wholly piceous (three specimens). The majority, however, are distinctly bicolored with the elytra subpiceous to piceous (65 specimens) or more or less reddish-brown (16 specimens). The transition, however, is gradual and the separation arbitrary. The characteristic dense longitudinal band of erect pronotal hairs is present in all. In most individuals the long pubescence elsewhere on the pronotum is sparse but in 10 per cent it is relatively dense.

Mozier, Wasco County, Oregon. Two males, January 29, 1931, collected by W. W. Lawrence. These are 22.5 mm. and 23.5 mm. in length, respectively. Both are uniformly reddish-brown. Both have the longitudinal band of erect pronotal hairs but it is somewhat reduced. The remainder of the pronotum is glabrous.

Oak Grove, Hood River County, Oregon. Ten males, excavated from the ground between December 2, 1953 and December 30, 1953. In length these range from 20.25 mm. to 23.25 mm. with a mean of 22.5 mm. In coloration this small series varies from unicolorous reddish-brown to bicolored with piceous elytra but does not exhibit the extremes evident in the long series from Odell.

¹ Measured to within 0.25 mm. accuracy from the tip of one clypeal horn to the apex of the elytron on the same side. J. W. MacSwain kindly assisted with the measurements.

The most obvious feature of these individuals is the greater average hirsuteness of the body which is particularly evident on the pronotum.

Husum, one mile north, Klickitat County, Washington. Seven males, collected on October 14, 1954 and November 9, 1954, by F. Ellertson. In length these range from 19.5 to 22.5 mm. with a mean of 20.7 mm. Thus the average size of the individuals in this small sample is considerably less than in those from other localities and may reflect the fact that, unlike the others, they were collected from a non-irrigated orchard (Ritcher, *in litt.*). In coloration they range from almost uniformly castaneous (2) to distinctly bicolored with the elytra subpiceous (2) to piceous (3).

Pleocoma minor Linsley, is known only from two males from Hood River, Hood River County, Oregon (holotype in the California Academy of Sciences Collection, paratype in A. T. MacClay collection). It occurs in the same general region as *P. crinita*, but judging from these specimens it is smaller (19.5 mm.) in average size, duller, uniformly brownish-black, and the median line of dense pronotal punctures is limited to the anterior one-third, as are the erect hairs which are short rather than long.

The female of *Pleocoma crinita* differs from all others known to me in that, as in the male, the median line of dense prothoracic punctures extends for the length of the pronotum and this line and the scutellum are clothed with long hairs. A series of 76 females from Odell, Oregon, taken with the males referred to above, vary in length from 20.75 mm. to 30.25 mm., with 88 per cent in the 23–28 mm. range. Seven females from the Oak Grove locality vary from 24.5 mm. to 28 mm., two from Husum are each 20.25 mm., and one from Pine Grove, Hood River County, Oregon is 22.5 mm. A second female from this last locality is 28.5 mm. in length and differs from all of the others in that the longitudinal band of dense pronotal punctures is ill-defined and evident mainly in the mid-discal region. However, this limited impression is clothed with erect hairs and the specimen may possibly represent *P. dubitalis* Davis or *P. minor* Linsley.